

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 IO-11 EB-07 /083 W

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R 291600Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1922

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AUSMISSION NATO 6934

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0165

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW

SUBJECT: INNER-GERMAN TRANSIT AGREEMENTS: EVERYTHING ON THE RAILS

REFS: A) USBERLIN 102, B) USBERLIN 91, C) USBERLIN 107, D) BONN 898

1. SUMMARY: SENAT HAS INFORMED US OF FIRST INDICATION THAT REICHSBAHN MAY IN FACT COMPLY QUIETLY WITH ALLIED BK/O CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION AT TRAIN STATIONS IN WESTERN SECTORS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS CONFIRMED PUBLICLY THAT FRENCH CONSIDER RECENT INNER-GERMAN TRANSIT PACKAGE GOOD THING AND THAT ALLIED ACTION WAS NOT SIGN OF PIQUE BUT MERELY ROUTINE EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THERE WERE NO CHANGES IN LEGAL SITUATION OR PRACTICES. ALLIES HAVE ISSUED ROUTINE BK/L AUTHORIZING SENAT TO DISCUSS OPENING OF NEW NORTHERN CROSSING POINT WITH GDR AS ENVISAGED IN PACKAGE AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY:

2. SENAT INFORMED US JANUARY 26 THAT REICHSBAHN HAS
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CIRCULARIZED SEVERL LARGE WEST BERLIN FIRMS, INCLUDING

SIEMENS, FOR BIDS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CONSTRUCTION AT STAAKEN AND AT WANNSEE, SPANDAU AND CHARLOTTENBURG STATIONS. REQUESTS FOR TENDERS ARE UNDER LETTERHEAD OF "DEUTSCHE REICHSBAHN, HAUPTAUFTRAGGEBER FUER INVESTITION IM REICHSBAHN DIREKTION BERLIN." ADDRESS IS KOCHSTRASSE IN U.S. SECTOR. REQUESTS CONTAIN NO MENTION OF GDR OR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT. WE SEE THIS AS ENCOURAGING INDICATION THAT, HAVING MADE THEIR ALMOST OBLIGATORY STATUS POINT VIA NEWSPAPER STORIES LAST WEEK (REF A), GDR WILL NOW PERMIT REICHSBAHN TO TAKE STEPS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT VARYING FROM ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES OR SEEKING CONFRONTATION.

3. AS PART OF GENERAL PROCESS OF PUTTING ISSUE OF ALLIED MOTIVES TO REST, FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO FRG WORMSER TOLD GREEN WEEK PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 27 THAT ALLIES ISSUED BK/O AFTER FULL RESULTS OF FRG-GDR NEGOTIATION HAD BEEN STUDIED IN ORDER TO APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALLIED AUTHORITY IN BERLIN. WHILE SUCH A STEP WAS NECESSARY, AMBASSADOR WORMSER SAID, IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN TAKEN HAD NOT ALLIES BEEN ABLE TO APPROVE SUBSTANCE OF AGREEMENT.

4. SENAT ALSO APPEARS RELAXED ABOUT SUBJECT. ITS PRESS SPOKESMAN STRUVE ISSUED STATEMENT LAST WEEK WELCOMING BOTH BK/O AND FRG STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION, AND WE HAVE HEARD INFORMAL EXPRESSIONS OF PLEASURE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES IN SENAT AND LOCAL BUNDESBahn OFFICE THAT ALLIES MADE SUCH CLEAR REAFFIRMATION OF REICHSBAHN STATUS IN WESTERN SECTORS.

5. TO COMPLETE ACTIONS REQUIRED AT THIS STAGE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PACKAGE AGREEMENT IN BERLIN, KOMMANDATURA ISSUED FOLLOWING BK/L ON NORTHERN CROSSING POINT JANUARY 20, BACKDATED TO DECEMBER 19, DAY FRG-GDR AGREEMENT CONCLUDED: BEGIN TEXT: IN BK/L(75)44 OF TODAY'S DATE, THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA TOOK NOTE OF ONE PARTICULAR ASPECT OF THE DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE SENAT ON 19 DECEMBER 1975 RELATING TO NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE GDR WHICH CONCERN THE WESTERN

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SECTORS OF BERLIN. IN THE PRESENT BK/L THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA TAKES NOTE OF A SECOND ASPECT OF THESE DOCUMENTS, NAMELY, AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONCERNING THE OPENING OF A NEW CROSSING POINT IN THE NORTH OF THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN ON THE BASIS OF THE TRAVEL AND VISIT ARRANGEMENT OF 20 DECEMBER 1971. THE SENAT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE AUTHORITIES OF THE GDR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION

OF THE ABOVE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS. THE PROVISIONS OF
BK/L(73)46 SHALL APPLY AS APPROPRIATE. END TEXT.GEORGE

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